MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

11 DECEMBER 1981

Libya

After broadcasting the "text" of the U.S. statement calling on all U.S. citizens to leave Libya as soon as possible, Tripoli Voice of Arab Homeland radio reported that a Libyan political commentator denied U.S. allegations that his country is responsible for assassinations and terrorism, describing such charges as "nothing but superstition." Libya is proud that the United States is taking such a hostile stand toward it, he added, and is proud to destroy U.S. interests, which conflict with Libyan and Arab interests.

Earlier, JANA carried a statement by Libya's UN mission, stressing that Libya is prepared to receive a fact-finding committee from the UN Security Council or from the U.S. Congress to establish the falsehood of U.S. allegations that Libya has sent a number of men to assassinate President Ronald Reagan. Libya has sent letters about this to U.S. congressional leaders, the statement noted. According to a subsequent Tripoli radio report, the Libyan UN representative told the Security Council president that Libya insists on the formation of a fact-finding committee and wants the Security Council to authorize an investigation of the accusations against Libya.

Rebutting the U.S. charges against Libya, JANA asserted that the Reagan administration has shamelessly fed rumors about Libyan killer squads to the U.S. press, despite the "wave of doubt and criticism of its allegations" now prevalent among the American public. Asserting that the U.S. administration has contradicted itself in its reports on the whereabouts of the death squads and on its source of information, JANA said the Americans have completely failed to produce any evidence or proof to support their claims. It warned that the Reagan administration is disseminating its "allegations and lies" to prepare an act of aggression against Libya and to divert U.S. public opinion from domestic problems.

KUNA reported that Oil Secretary 'Abd as-Salam az-Zaq'ar, who is attending the OPEC meeting in Abu Dhabi, said that if American technicians withdraw from Libya without any legal basis," Libya will file suite against them even in the United States. He also said Libya does not intend to take any measures against U.S. citizens in the country, whose rights will remain protected whether they stay or leave.

Describing as "unacceptable nonsense" U.S. allegations that the security situation is worsening for Americans in Libya, JANA claimed that Americans working in the Jamahiriyah live "in peace and harmony in a way far better than the conditions of life in America." JANA called on the American people and Congress to ascertain for themselves the "good life" that U.S. nationals are enjoying in Libya.

Meanwhile, in a British commercial television interview, Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi said Libya has not done enough to defend itself against the United States because so far "we have not directly engaged the American forces." He said Libya should have stopped U.S. maneuvers by force and should attack the U.S. 6th Fleet because "America is attacking our shores." Al-Qadhdhafi also denied responsibility for the assassination of Libyan exiles opposed to his regime, saying the killings were carried out by "revolutionary committees abroad" that are not under his control. Asked about Libyan support for guerrilla movements, he said Libyan training for armed groups from Zimbabwe, Angola and Namibia is "public knowledge."

OPEC Meeting

Citing a "reliable source," WAKH reported that during their morning session on 10 December, the OPEC oil ministers meeting in Abu Dhabi discussed a report submitted by the long-term strategy and experts committees and that oil price differentials proved a "thorny" issue during the meeting. After the evening session, UAE Petroleum and Natural Resources

Minister Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah said opinions still differed on the issue and that discussions would continue.

Asked about possible OPEC action against the United States in view of the U.S. moves against Libya, Al-'Utaybah replied that OPEC has nothing to do with politics, KUNA reported. However, according to Abu Dhabi radio, he said today's meeting would also deal with Libya's request for discussion of a boycott of U.S. oil companies.

According to Tehran radio's Arabic service, during the 9 December session Saudi Arabia proposed a long-term strategy based on producing more oil, which Iran strongly opposed. Citing Iranian Petroleum Minister Mohammad Gharazi, it said Iran proposed that OPEC members impose an embargo on U.S. companies that have stopped buying Libyan oil.

Iran

Tehran radio reported on 11 December that Shiraz Friday Imam Ayatollah 'Abdolhoseyn Dastgheyb was killed by a bomb explosion on his way to Friday prayers.

PLO

In a statement to the Kuwaiti paper AS-SIYASAH, reported by KUNA, Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf said that during his recent Middle East tour U.S. special envoy Philip Habib warned the PLO that if it rejects the U.S. plan for a solution to the Lebanese problem, the United States will be unable to prevent Israel from taking action in southern Lebanon. According to Khalaf, Habib urged the withdrawal of heavy Palestinian artillery, an increase in UNIFIL forces from 6,000 to 16,000 men, the confinement of the Palestinian resistance to an area near the Lebanese-Syrian border and a withdrawal of weapons from all parts of Beirut, making it an open city.

Syria

According to Damascus radio, 'Abd as-Salam Jallud, member of the General Secretariat of Libya's General People's Congress, arrived in Damascus where he met with President Hafiz al-Asad and Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam. Their talks focused on the situation in the Arab region as a result of the U.S.-Israeli memorandum of understanding on strategic cooperation and on bilateral relations. The radio later reported Jallud's departure.

Reaction to Cheysson Statements

The Egyptian Foreign Ministry asked France for a copy of the full text of statements made by French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson during his recent visit to Israel, AFP reported. Cairo radio reported a statement by Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali that Egypt will wait for Cheysson's upcoming visit to Cairo to discuss his statements in detail. According to Amman radio, Jordan asked the French charge d'affaires in Amman to provide the full text of statements "attributed to senior French officials" in connection with Cheysson's visit to Israel. It also conveyed Jordan's concern over such statements, which might seriously harm France's relations with the Arab world.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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KARMAL ADDRESSES AFRO-ASIAN WRITERS COMMITTEE

LD042110 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1530 GMT 4 Dec 81

[Excerpt] Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and chairman of the DRA Revolutionary Council, met this morning with the Executive Committee of the Afro-Asian Writers Association at the Revolutionary Council headquarters. He spoke with them in an atmosphere of friendship.

The meeting was attended by Feda Mohammad Dehneshin, member of the Central Committee and head of propaganda, popularization and training of the PDPA Central Committee; and Dr Asadollah Habib, head of the DRA Writers Union. Babrak Karmal expressed his pleasure at meeting the Executive Committee of the Afro-Asian Writers Association and regarded the role of progressive writers as significant and important for the success of world liberation movements.

Babrak Karmal expressed gratitute on behalf of the PDPA and the DRA Government for convening the conference of the Executive Committee of the Afro-Asian Writers Association in Kabul and added:

It is a pleasure for the people of Afghanistan that following the successful conference of the AAPSO Presidium, the conference of the Executive Committee of the Afro-Asian Writers Association is being held in our country.

As a matter of fact, the formation of the Afro-Asian Writers Association is a formidable gain for the liberation movements in Asia and Africa.

In affirming the mission of world progressive writers Babrak Karmal said:

The world public will never forget the role of writers in supporting the liberation movements of Vietnam, the people of Palestine, Afghanistan, Angola and Southwest Africa under the leadership of SWAPO and other countries of the world. Today the role of able writers in the destiny of progressive humanity is formidable.

We do not know of neutral writers; surely either they are in the direction of peace, progress, tranquillity and the wellbeing of the people of the world, or they support the satanic, imperialist, Zionist, fascist forces.

In facing class positions today you are dutybound to expose truth and put it in front of the world public. You are dutybound to specify and reflect the truth of the working and toilers class.

Babrak Karmal added: You able writers have managed not only to safeguard the cultural treasures and prideful customs of Asia and Africa but you have also helped to develop them.

Once again I express my thanks for your arrival in my country and for convening the Executive Committee of the Afro-Asian Writers Association conference in Kabul.

In addressing the member delegation of the Afro-Asian Writers Association, Babrak Karmal said:

Your duties are different and various. Surely we share the view that imperialism, led by U.S. imperialism, wants to disturb the spirit of peace and detente in the region and in the world. Under these conditions the important duty of the writers is to assist peace in the world; this duty must be accomplished seriously and actively.

Babrak Karmal added: So far you are the militants of truth seeking and you are truth-loving. I would like to speak briefly about the truth of the Sawr Revolution and the timely assistance of the USSR.

The Sawr Revolution, which stemmed from the determination of the people of Afghanistan, shook imperialism and reaction in the region and Asia.

All reactionary and imperialistic circles took position in an unholy front against Afghanistan's revolution and have practically waged an undeclared war. Now thousands of their servants and mercenaries who are trained by the United States, China, Egypt and so forth are being sent to our soil via Pakistan. They embark on terrorism and subversion by killing innocent people and children.

In referring to the evil of imperialism prior to the new development stage of the glorious Sawr Revolution, Babrak Karmal added:

In accordance with the precise plan levied by imperialism, hegemonism and reaction, the existence of Afghanistan on the world map should have been ended even if it had to be by regional or world war. But it was the great USSR that dashed to the assistance of our persecuted people on the request of the legal government of Afghanistan; and on this the sons, people of Afghanistan and the national and patriotic forces of the country believe that if it were not for the internationalist assistance of the USSR, today the free, independent, prideful and heroic Afghanistan would not exist. Hence, the people of Afghanistan are expressing their unlimited gratitude to the Communist Party, government and people of the USSR.

At the end of his speech, Babrak Karmal added:

Nevertheless, the enemies are doomed to defeat and the glorious Sawr Revolution of Afghanistan is victorious. Afghanistan today is not alone but in a broad front together with all progressive countries, liberation movements and progressive forces all over the world, including the able writers of the Afro-Asian Writers Association; and our revolution is victorious.

KABUL REPORTS RECENT ACTIONS AGAINST REBELS

LD101752 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 10 Dec 81

[Text] In line with cleansing our dear homeland of traitor elements, the country's heroic armed forces and revolutionary sarandoy have recently crushed several groups of counterrevolutionary bands in Qandahar, Baghlan, Herat, Qonduz, Badakhshan and Badghisat Provinces and have seized assorted weapons from these criminals and thieves.

According to a report from the Qandahar Province security force, over 120 counterrevolutionaries who, resorting to terror and theft, had disrupted the peace and the noble people of Arghandab District, were crushed by the security forces in Boya-Menar. The ringleaders of this criminal band, Jan Mohammad, 'Abdol Jabar, Sayd Mohammad, [name indistinct], Gholam Mohammad and Mohammad Khwaja, were also killed.

Also, as a result of an attack by a group of revolution defenders, another band of criminals and terrorists in Safis Kam and Band-e Ghowri, Baghlan Province, together with their ringleaders 'Alam, who is also called Saeb Jan, and Lawang, were punished for their debased actions.

According to a report from the security forces in Herat Province, two groups of murderers and thieves; who, as a result of their debased actions, had disrupted the peace of the noble people of the Pol-e Malan area and Adraskan District, Herat Province, including Qazi [judge] Mohammad 'Aiwaz, the ringleader of this notorious band, were killed in the area of Pol-e Malan as a result of the activity of the security force and revolution defenders groups.

Another report says that as a result of the militancy of the security force of Qonduz Province, bands of rebels in the (?Kopa-e) Darwaz and Khwahan District, Qonduz Province, together with their ringleaders, Edris and Mohammad Na'aim, were crushed and a number of various machineguns and hundreds of rounds of ammunition were seized from these lunatics.

Also the security forces of Badakhshan and Badghisat Provinces report that groups of the mercenaries of reaction and imperialism, who have murdered and plundered our defenseless people in Eshkashem District, Badakhshan Province, Qala-e Naw and Morghar District, Badghisat Province, were crushed by the security force and revolution defenders with the cooperation of the noble people of the said provinces. The rebels' ringleader in Badghisat Province, Mohammad 'Aref, was also punished for his antihuman actions.

The security forces of these provinces add that dozens of heavy and light machineguns, antitank mines, 10,000 rounds of rocket missiles, transport means, printed leaflets and weapons caches were seized from these bands that infiltrated from abroad. Also a number of these murderers were captured.

KABUL REPORTS ON MILITARY DISCHARGE CEREMONIES

LD092258 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 9 Dec 81

[Text] A large number of heroic and brave soldiers who have completed their military service in various units of the DRA Armed Forces and sarandoy, and are therefore eligible for discharge, have received their discharge certificates in the past week.

According to reports, a number of these troops, although they have obtained their discharge certificates from their units, still remain in the armed forces because of the love and great interest they have found for their beloved country and for the defense of the gains of the Sawr Revolution, especially its new development stage, and their concern for the sacred soil and our toiling people.

Speeches were made at meetings in the capital and in the provinces on the occasion of the soldiers' discharge, to voice appreciation for the brave soldiers who are voluntarily continuing their sacred military service in the ranks of the armed forces and the sarandoy. The governors, commanders of units and some of the elders of the respective regions, while congratulating the brave troops of the country on receiving their discharge certificates after completing their military service, praised those men who are continuing their military service. They wished success for all soldiers, both in their military and their civilian professions.

The BAKHTAR correspondent reports from Farah and Bamian Provinces that meetings were held yesterday on the occasion of discharge of men of the armed forces regiment of Bamian Province, and the sarandoy command of Farah Province. In the course of these meetings the soldiers were commended and were presented with their discharge certificates and cash awards.

A meeting was held today in the second security zone, Kabul Province, on the occasion of the distribution of discharge certificates to the men of that zone. Some of the officials spoke on the subject at this meeting and discharge certificates were distributed to the soldiers in a wave of audience enthusiasm. According to another report, a number of the troops of the military school were discharged at a meeting held in the political enlightenment room of this command. After a speech by the military school commander about the honors of military service, dischargees Mohammad Rahim, Mohammad Akbar and Khalil Rahman spoke on behalf of the other troops and thanked the relevant authorities for the appreciation extended to them.

GOL AQA INSPECTS AIR DEFENSE EXERCISES

LD092220 Kabul in English to Europe 1900 GMT 9 Dec 81

[Text] Major General Gol Aqa, the general president of the political affairs of the Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, while accompanied by the chief of staff and the political officer of the air and air defense forces, by the commander of the air defense force and by a number of the staff of that command, visited yesterday the exercises of air defense artillery forces held in Tara Khel, near Kabul.

RAO COMMENTS ON CURRENT BORDER TALKS WITH CHINA

BK110917 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 11 Dec 81

[Text] In Beijing, China and India have begun their 2d day of border talks. As reported earlier, on the opening day yesterday, both sides expressed the desire for a settlement of the boundary question and for further improvement in bilateral relations. The two sides also reached an agreement on certain procedural matters. The Indian team is led by Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs Eric Gonsalves. The Chinese side is headed by Vice Foreign Affairs Minister Han Nianlong.

Meanwhile, the external affairs minister told the Rajya Sabha today that India does not propose to agree to exchange the Aksai Chin area for Chumbi Valley during the current border talks with China in Beijing.

EGYPT'S GHALI MEETS OFFICIALS, CONCLUDES VISIT

Interviewed by Delhi Radio

BK090350 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1545 GMT 8 Dec 81

[Interview with Dr Butrus Ghali, Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs, by All-India radio west Asian correspondent Arun Roy -- recorded in Cairo, no date given]

[Text] [Question] Egypt is taking a new initiative to strengthen its ties with the nonaligned countries. What is the special significance of the move?

[Answer] In fact, Egypt with India and Yugoslavia have created this movement and the first meeting was in Brioni in July 1956. This first summit meeting was in September 1961 and what is more important is that the preparatory conference for the first summit meeting of the nonaligned countries in September 1961 in Belgrade was held in Cairo. Thus we have participated not only in the creation of this movement, but we have together with India and Yugoslavia and some other countries like Indonesia and Sri Lanka, given the real momentum to this movement. We believe that we have a special responsibility toward the movement, and now there is a new tension, a new cold war between East and West and this new tension is at the expense of the relation between South and North, or I would put it in a different way -- that the focus is again on the relations between East and West and this is at the expense of concerning the relations between South and North, and one of the purposes of Egyptian diplomacy is how we could again obtain more attention on the problems of the relations between North and South; and Egypt in Africa, India in Asia have a special responsibility in dealing with the problem of economic development, and certainly that if you can find new themes to create a [word indistinct] of the world public opinion dealing with the problems of nonalignment, this will help our movement and this will give a new strength and a new momentum to the action of our movement in favour of peace, not only political peace but economic peace, too.

[Question] Do you believe that in recent years that the Nonaligned Movement has shifted from its path and it needs to be corrected?

[Answer] Yes, at the last summit meeting in Cuba there was a tendency to transform the movement by saying that there is a natural alliance between the nonaligned countries and the socialist camp. In our point of view, this trend is in opposition with the basic philosophy of nonalignment which is based, I would not say in mathematical equidistance between the two camps, or the two blocs, but at least to maintain this equilibrium between those two groups of states.

[Question] Most of the nonaligned countries are opposed to the Camp David accords. How does Egypt (?expect) to mend fences with them without giving up the Camp David?

[Answer] First of all I disagree with you that most of the nonaligned countries are against the agreement of Camp David. Camp David is only a framework, a framework of action, and it depends what will be obtained through the action, the diplomatic action, in the framework of Camp David. Secondly, and this is more important, we believe that we must continue to persevere in our negotiations in the framework of Camp Daivd as long as there is no other alternative, a new framework for action and that this framework could be accepted by all the parties concerned, then we would be very pleased and we will be in favor of this alternative or of this new initiative. But as long as there is nothing, we believe that it is one of our duties to continue to do our best to obtain peace in the Middle East through the Camp David agreement. And I believe that the nonaligned countries can understand quite well this action of Egypt in favor of peace, and after all, peace is one of the basic aims of nonalignment. So there is no contradiction between our action in favor of peace and the positions of certain nonaligned countries which do not trust the Camp David accords.

[Question] In recent weeks, Israelis have made contradictory statements about the final withdrawal from Sinai. Is the Egyptian Government confident that Israel will fulfill its commitment by pulling out from the occupied Sinai by April next?

[Answer] Yes, we are sure that the Israelis will withdraw by the 26th of April and they will respect the peace treaty which was signed between Egypt and Israel. Furthermore, when they will withdraw, this will be a new proof to the world public opinion and to the Arab public opinion that through negotiation and through dialogue we can find a peaceful solution to the Middle East crisis.

[Question] President Mubarak has stated again and again that he is prepared to go to any Arab country to improve relations. Has there been any feeler from any of the Arab countries for improving relations with Egypt?

[Answer] Again the relations between Egypt and different Arab countries must be studied on two levels. First of all, is the transnational level, or the level of the contact of the population with the population. Here the relations are excellent. We have something like between 2 to 3 million Egyptian experts working in different parts of the Arab world. There are thousands and thousands of Arab students in our universities, in our institutes, in our military academy, in our police academy, there is Arab capital and Arab petrodollars coming here in Cairo: All those new hotels which have been built are built with Arab capital. So the relation between Egypt and the Arab world is, I would say, normal at least on the transnational level. On the diplomatic level, if the Arab countries decided to resume diplomatic relations with Egypt, Egypt will welcome this. But they must keep [words indistinct] that we will maintain our diplomatic relations with Israel and that we believe that it is essential for us to maintain the process of normalization between Egypt and Israel.

[Question] The Palestinian autonomy talks have so far failed. If the talks completely fail, what will be the fallback position of Egypt? Will it go along with the Saudi peace plan?

[Answer] Here again I disagree with you. I would say that negotiations on the Palestinian autonomy talks have not failed. They are still at the beginning of a very long process. It has taken years and years to find a solution, let us say, to the Korean War, years and years to find a solution to the neutrality of Austria and I can give you a list of examples to show you how long or how much time it takes to find peaceful solution of international disputes.

So we are still at the beginning of the process and we believe that we must continue this process as long as there is no other alternative. Here again I just want to say that we never prepared to have a monopoly of the peaceful solution of the Middle East crisis. Thus, if there is a Saudi plan, if there is an European plan, if there is a new American plan, if there is a nonaligned initiative to find another solution or to offer another framework to find a solution to the Middle East, we will be in favor at one condition -- that you obtain the agreement of the different countries concerned, and among themselves, if you claim the agreement of Israel, because who will deliver? Israel will deliver! So we must obtain the agreement of Israel. So we are in favor of any new approach on one conditions -- that you obtain the agreement of all the parties concerned.

[Question] I am told that one of the purposes of your visit to Delhi is to improve bilateral relations, particularly in the fields of economic cooperation? Have you identified the areas where the two countries can cooperate more fruitfully?

[Answer] Certainly not only the areas of economic relations, but certainly there is something in my point of view which is more important than economic relations, which is cultural relations between the two countries. More exchange of professors, of students, exchange of artists, to put more emphasis on cultural links existing between our two countries. But again, trade is very important, technical cooperation is very important, and we believe that we have a lot to learn from India and it is very important that we have more economic, technological, cultural relations between our two countries, and certainly I hope that my short visit will help to improve the special economic, technological, cultural relations which exist between Delhi and Cairo.

Meets With Gandhi, Rao

BK100950 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 10 Dec 81

[Text] The visiting Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs, Dr Butrus Ghali, delivered a personal message from President Husni Mubarak to Mrs Gandhi in New Delhi yesterday. Dr Ghali also exchanged views with the prime minister on the Nonaligned Movement and the situation in west Asia, besides other international issues. [According to Cairo MENA in English at 1538 GMT on 9 December, "MENA learned that Dr Ghali extended to Mrs Gandhi an invitation to visit Egypt from President Mubarak and that she accepted the invitation. The date of the visit will be fixed later."]

Mrs Gandhi told him of India's abiding interest in strengthening the Nonaligned Movement. About bilateral relations with Egypt, Mrs Gandhi agreed that efforts are needed on both sides to consolidate ties in various fields, including trade.

Earlier, Dr Ghali had discussions with External Affairs Minister Narasimha Rao on the international situation, particularly west Asia and bilateral matters. He underlined the fact that New Delhi was the first capital that President Mubarak has asked him to visit after taking office following President as-Sadat's assassination. This indicates the importance that Egypt attaches to her relations with India, he added.

Last night, Narasimha Rao hosted a dinner in honor of Dr Butrus Ghali. Speaking at the function, Rao said a just and comprehensive peace in west Asia is not possible without complete withdrawal of Israeli forces from occupied territories and establishment of an independent Palestinian state.

In his reply, Dr Ghali said Egypt will continue the peace process started by the historical visit of the late President as-Sadat to Jerusalem in 1977.

Holds Press Conference

NC101612 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1355 GMT 10 Dec 81

[Text] New Delhi, 10 Dec (MENA) -- Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali has emphasized that Egypt will continue the peace process despite the trends opposed to it. At a press conference held today at the end of his visit to India, Ghali said that Israel's withdrawal from the remaining part of Sinai in April will be proof that negotiations can lead to tangible results. This will encourage the other Arab countries to participate in the peace process.

Ghali stressed that Egypt will not act on behalf of the Palestinians. Egypt is acting to create a suitable atmosphere to establish Palestinian autonomy in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Asked about Egyptian-Indian relations in the post-As-Sadat era, Ghali said that Egypt's foreign policy under the leadership of President Husni Mubarak is the same as before. He described Egyptian-Indian relations as very good.

On whether President Mubarak will take the initiative for improving relations with the Arab countries, Dr Ghali said: The liberation of Sinai, which is a tangible result of direct negotiations, will help Egypt bring about a rapprochement with the Arab countries.

Regarding U.S.-Egyptian relations, Ghali said that Egypt did not offer any military bases to the United States. He added that the aim of the joint military exercise between the two countries was to enable the Egyptian Army to acquire technological experience.

Comments on Military Maneuvers

NC101614 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 10 Dec 81

[Text] Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali said today that despite the fact that Egypt maintains a special relationship with the United States, it does not mean that Egypt has given up its nonaligned policy. At a press conference he gave in New Delhi, Ghali denied that the joint military maneuvers Egypt carried out with the United States means alignment. He said the maneuvers were limited and instead of going to the United States for military training, Egypt asked the United States to conduct the maneuvers in Egypt.

Condemns Libyan 'Adventurism'

BK101703 Hong Kong AFP in English 1343 GMT 10 Dec 81

[Text] New Delhi, 10 Dec (AFP) -- Egyptian Foreign Minister Dr Butrus Ghali today strongly condemned Libya's "military adventurism and subversion" which, he said, could provoke intervention by the super powers in Africa.

Dr Ghali, who was answering questions at a Press Club of India luncheon here, evaded a direct answer when asked what he thought of Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's reported threat to eliminate President Reagan and his colleagues.

He said Africa could become a scene of cold war if Libya continued with its "military activism and intervention."

Dr Ghali, who is on a four-day [as received] official visit to India, recalled Libya's intervention in many African countries, including two attempted revolutions in Sudan, and described Tripoli as "a real danger to Africa."

Dr Ghali, who is marking his first trip to India after the assassination of President Anwar as-Sadat in October, said his visit was aimed at strengthening the role of the Non-aligned Movement in securing detente and bringing about peace and stability.

He said the new president, Husni Mubarak, wanted Egypt and India "to establish the old relations of the days of An-Nasir, Tito and Nehru" and together strengthen the Non-aligned Movement.

Dr Ghali outlined in detail the relations between Egypt and other Arab nations and his government's position on the peace treaty with Israel.

He said he was confident Egypt would be able to achieve rapproachement with the Arab states once Israel had withdrawn from Sinai.

Stating that Egypt was being squeezed between "Arab rejectionists and Israeli rejectionists," he said, "when we succeed in our first aim of getting Israel to withdraw from Egyptian territory, that will create a psychological moment for Israeli recognition of the Palestinian state."

Dr Ghali admitted that Egypt currently enjoyed "close and friendly" relations with the United States but stressed that "our relations would never reach the position of an alliance."

He also said Egypt's relations with the U.S. were mainly related to the Middle East crisis and did not mean Egypt was moving away from its non-aligned status.

Sees African Envoys

NC101326 Cairo MENA in English 1222 GMT 10 Dec 81

[Text] New Delhi, 10 Dec (MENA) -- Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali had a meeting this morning with African ambassadors here.

He briefed them on the outcome of his talks with the Indian officials and Egypt's diplomatic efforts to achieve in stability in Africa.

Dr Ghali also discussed the need of coordination among the African states through the Nonalignment Movement.

Leaves for Cairo

BK110348 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 11 Dec 81

[Text] Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali left New Delhi this morning for Cairo after a 3-day official visit. During his stay, he had discussions with Indian leaders on various bilateral and international issues. He said his talks with External Affairs Minister Narasimha Rao were constructive and will help in strengthening relations between the two countries.

Addressing a luncheon meeting of the Press Club of India yesterday, Dr Ghali said that the Camp David accord is a framework for peaceful negotiations to solve the west Asia problem. He said Egypt will continue its efforts to bring Palestinians and Israelis together for negotiations and for recognizing each other's existence.

RAO ON RESPONSE TO PAKISTAN'S NO-WAR PROPOSAL

BK101715 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 10 Dec 81

[Text] India has made it clear that its response to Pakistan's so-called no-war pact offer will be positive only when a similar offer is acceptable which India made in 1949. Replying to a 5 and 1/2 hour debate on the international situation in the Lok Sabha today, External Affairs Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao said it would be unfair to expect India to wish away the past 30 years. During that time Pakistan had consistently refused to accept India's offer on certain grounds.

Refuting the criticism against the government for lack of response to Pakistan's offer, he asked how could India ignore the fact that every time the offer is made, talks were held for a supply of sophisticated weapons by the United States to Pakistan.

During his 45-minute speech Rao dealt with wide-ranging international issues as well as India's relations with its neighbors. About Nepal, he was happy to tell the house that a lot of progress has been made in the past year on various matters, including utilization of water resources.

India and Bangladesh have been able to defuse the situation arising out of the new Moore Island and a broader problem also, following good will on both sides. Referring to the Indian team, which has returned from Bangladesh after the talks, Rao expressed the hope that the problem would be settled amicably.

On relations with Sri Lanka, he said India is prepared to take those people of Indian origin who have registered with us.

About ties with China, Rao said only after the delegation currently holding talks in Beijing returns would we know about the progress made.

On the Afghanistan issue, Rao lamented that no attempt has been made so far regionally to find a solution.

About disarmament, the external affairs minister reiterated India's stand that all kinds of nuclear weapons have to be abolished. India shall continue to stick to the stand which has been basically accepted by the Nonaligned Movement.

The house later adopted a motion by B.B. Desai, Congress-I, wholeheartedly supporting the government's firm determination to pursue the nonaligned policy in dealing with the present international situation.

A substitute motion by Ramavatar Shastri, Communist Party of India, was rejected.

Earlier during the discussion, members from both sides of the house deplored the arming of Pakistan by the United States.

PAKISTAN INCREASES SURVEILLANCE OF INDIAN MISSION

BK110750 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 11 Dec 81

[Text] The Pakistan Government has further increased its surveillance of the Indian Embassy and its personnel in Islamabad. This information was given to the Rajya Sabha by External Affairs Minister Narasimha Rao today.

He said India has regretted the expulsion of four staff members of the Indian Embassy in Islamabad and its Consulate General in Karachi. It was in retaliation of the quit notices served on three staff members of the Pakistan Embassy in New Delhi on the grounds of espionage, he added.

ANTI-KARMAL ACTIVITY BY REFUGEES PROHIBITED

BK101053 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1000 GMT 10 Dec 81

[Text] Minister of State for Home Yogendra Makwana informed the upper house of parliament today that there is no intention to allow Afghan refugees to use Indian soil for anti-Karmal activity. He said some of the Afghan refugees have been allowed to stay on in the country on humanitarian grounds. These people come by air and stay at the airport. However, the government has succeeded in sending most of them back. Only 22 of them were permitted to stay here temporarily on humanitarian grounds but they will not be allowed to stay on permanently.

Makwana also informed the house that government is creating a cell to monitor the inflow of foreign funds to different organizations in the country.

USSR'S VASILIY KUZNETSOV ADDRESSES PARLIAMENT

BK101345 Hong Kong AFP in English 1044 GMT 10 Dec 81

[Text] New Delhi, 10 Dec (AFP) -- Vice-Chairman of the Supreme Soviet Presidium Vasiliy Kuznetsov told members of parliament here today that the dangerous international situation was not due to any "superpower rivalry" but due to the struggle between the line of peaceful co-existence and the "line of exacerbating international tensions."

Mr Kuznetsov said, without naming the United States, that the latter believed in the arms race and preparation for the thermonuclear war.

Mr Kuznetsov, who is leading a Soviet parliamentary delegation to India, dismissed the view that the Soviet Union and the U.S. were "seeking to drag into their conflict other countries and peoples against their will and contrary to their interests."

The Soviet leader told a meeting of selected members of parliament that the Soviet policy of peaceful co-existence and the path of detente had promoted worldwide successes of the national liberation movement and helped the newly freed states to consolidate their political and economic independence.

These developments had "unnerved those who had grown accustomed to regard the whole world as their domain, accustomed to divide and rule, to dictate their will to other people," he added.

EXPRESS: FOREIGN POLICY CREATING AREA INSECURITY

BK091645 Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS in English 5 Dec 81 p 6

[Ajit Bhattacharjea article: "India and the Neighbors"]

[Text] December has come, but fortunately there is no trace of the shooting war on the subcontinent that was predicted so confidently earlier in the year. The reports in the foreign press at the time show that the desire of correspondents to make headlines can create an unjustified scare, which can itself become a major factor in bringing about the situation they predict.

But it is hardly fair to blame foreign correspondents for predicting another war between India and Pakistan. That was in fact the grim picture painted in briefings by senior officers of the armed forces, semi-official institutes of military strategy and, though less directly, by spokesmen of the government. Diplomats who based their own assessments on the press, sent back the same impression, thus magnifying the scare.

It was not a scare of course, for those who actively created the impression that Pakistan was preparing to attack us, with the possible collaboration of Bangladesh and China. The military chiefs were as usual anxious to justify their perennial requests for more of the latest sophisticated weapons.

Nor can they be blamed. Their job is to make adequate preparations to defend the country against the level of possible aggression set before them by the government. If the prospect before them is to defend the entire western, northern and eastern border, together with the possibility of attacks on ships bringing India oil and other essential supplies, they had no option but to ask for the best, irrespective of whether the country could afford it or not.

Nor were diplomats, especially of countries interested in selling arms and securing the influence that military dependence entails, unhappy. The United States and the Soviet Union in particular, and France and Britain as well, welcome an atmosphere of competitive insecurity. For if India approaches one supplier of sophisticated arms, Pakistan is bound to approach the other, and vice versa. Unscrupulous arms dealers, foreign and domestic, are always ready to offer the latest and most expensive equipment, with a generous undercover kickback for those who smooth their path.

The ultimate responsiblity for keeping the country in a state of tension and insecurity is that of the government. Seldom has a week passed since Mrs Gandhi's return to power that one minister or other, not to speak of anonymous official spokesmen, have not raised the spectre of an early attack, usually to justify the huge purchases India has itself been making abroad.

The nation pays heavily for the mounting defence budget, but the political benefits for the ruling party more than make up for this outflow, especially since the inflationary impact does not affect those who have access to official perquisites. The external threat is always emphasised there are domestic problems at home or when opposition criticism begins to hurt.

The price may be heavy, but it would be worth paying if it actually improved India's security. But does it? Judging by the reactions of our neighbours, far from promoting regional security, India's policies and postures are creating an atmosphere of insecurity.

This would be evident if those making policies or defending it with half-truths could see themselves as they are seen from neighbouring capitals. But that is an exercise that is regarded as anti-national. Those who have tried it have paid the price, whether they are politicians, civil servants, academics or journalists.

But the facts cannot be hidden completely behind a smokescreen of self-righteous denunciations of others. The view that the average Bangladeshi has of India, though it is just 10 years since it was liberated with the assistance of our armed forces, was seen in the fate of those regarded as associated with the Indian Government in the recent presidential elections.

Though linked with India more closely than any other country by ties of common culture and history, Nepal's fears could not be completely obscured by diplomatic jargon and the brave speeches made by Mr Narasimha Rao during his recent visit. The significance of Katmandu's repeated desire to have Nepal declared a zone of peace emerges in bold relief if seen in the context of its acceptance by all its neighbours except India.

There was an implied rebuke in the manner in which the Nepal foreign minister, Mr Surya Bahadur Thapa, phrased his inability to understand New Delhi's reluctance to respond to their request. Declaring that Nepal had no fear complex in relation either to India or China, he is reported to have said "India should also have no fear complex." Coming from the spokesman of such a small and exposed country, Mr Thapa's remark indicates how our neighbours really view the alarmist statements emerging from New Delhi.

Nepal's anxiety to stress its neutrality should be appreciated by this country. It is a valuable buffer between us and China and it can continue to be so only if it can satisfy Beijing that its territory will never be used as a base for an attack on Tibet. It would not be able to fulfill this function if it became part of a regional South Asian grouping, as suggested by Mr Rao.

Political neutrality, however, cannot make Nepal's rivers flow north instead of south, as Nepal's ambassador in New Delhi expresses it picturesquely. For trade and commerce, and economic development in its widest sense, Nepal will always be dependent on this country. These are the ties that need to be cemented. The political relationship can then look after itself.

The Nepalese found a sympathetic listener in Mr Rao and are satisfied that are appreciates their problems. They are understandably anxious to go ahead with the hydro-electric projects that have already been arranged with India, but are not progressing expeditiously enough. Both countries will benefit and the links will bind them closer together.

But Nepal can no longer be treated as a backward, junior partner. It has built up its own expertise and can negotiate with our officials and technicians on equal terms. If they need our assistance, they will ask for it. Any attempt to thrust it on them, or patronise them in any way, is counter-productive.

Another example indicating that our neighbours are looking outside South Asia for contacts that we have evidently not been able to supply is Sri Lanka's application to join the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN). Colombo has made it clear that this does not have any political implications and that the move is motivated only by the desire to take advantage of the trading opportunties provided by the open ASEAN economy and market. But New Delhi has not been entirely happy with the move, interpreting it as an effort to have relations beyond the South Asian region and suspected that it could have been inspired by Washington.

Sri Lanka's application will be considered by ASEAN foreign ministers early next year. Although invited to join the grouping when it was formed, Colombo made the application only this year because, it explains, it is satisfied that ASEAN no longer has any political commitments to the West. Whether it will be admitted or not is still in doubt. While they have no objection to Sri Lanka, ASEAN governments feel that if they admit it now, they will find it difficult to reject applications from other countries in the area.

As in the case in Nepal, New Delhi could strengthen its links with Sri Lanka by encouraging trade and joint projects. With the possible exception of Pakistan, all our neighbours desire closer economic ties with India. Since they are smaller, relatively less developed and with big adverse trade balances, they look to India for concessions. But what they have got is usually patronising advice and distrust of their motives if they do not agree with New Delhi.

I have argued earlier that Pakistan's present plight provides an opportunity for a historic breakthrough in relations between the two countries. To agree to consider President Ziaul Haq's repeated proposals for a no-war pact does not amount to being taken for a ride or endorsing his military regime. But the manner in which Mrs Gandhi and her aids take every opportunity to doubt his motives can only be described as pathetic. If he is embarking on a diplomatic offensive, as our minister of state for defence, Mr Shivraj Patil, told parliament, we are providing the necessary ammunition. It is a pity that, once again, the more statesman-like response made by the foreign minister has been eroded by those closer to the prime minister.

Although still uncertain whether it should link itself more closely with west Asia or South Asia, Islamabad has been trying to revive trade and cultural ties with this country, as evidenced by its participation in the Indian industries fair in New Delhi. As the bigger and more powerful country, we should be seen as responding sympathetically, rather than suspiciously. An agreement to talk does not commit India to anything except a reduction of tensions. Continuing rejection only gives the impression that New Delhi is interested in maintaining strained relations for its own reasons.

GANDHI COMMENTS ON NORTHEAST REGION SITUATION

BK090853 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 9 Dec 81

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi has said that the northeastern region should develop in peace and harmony. Talking to a group of journalists from all the northeastern states in New Delhi today, she said that region is rich in resources and potential. Mrs Gandhi reiterated that she wants all cultures in the country to flourish because diversity is a source of strength for our country, she added.

In reply to a question, the prime minister said that the center has been having a dialogue with the Mizo leader Laldenga, but some of his demands are difficult. Asked about the Assam talks to resolve the foreign nationals issue, Mrs Gandhi said the center is always willing to have talks.

Meets With Opposition on Assam

BK101655 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 10 Dec 81

[Text] The government and opposition leaders will for the first time make a combined effort to thrash out the foreign national issue in Assam. This was decided at a 2-hour meeting Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi and her senior colleagues had with the opposition leaders in New Delhi today. Representatives of the Assam agitation will also be associated in this effort.

The suggestion for a combined meeting came from the opposition leaders and it has readily accepted by the prime minister. The opposition leader will select a small group from amongst themselves to jointly endeavor with the government to tackle the foreigners problem.

Mrs Gandhi briefly gave the opposition leaders an assessment of the security position in the country. The situation in Punjab also figured at the discussion. While giving an account of the discussions held so far on the Assam issue, the prime minister reiterated that historical facts and the nature of human problems have to be kept in view while hammering out a solution. The government is keen on amicable settlement and will accept all reasonable demands. At the same time the security and safety of the nation has to be ensured.

Discussing the situation in Punjab, the meeting strongly disapproved of terrorism, violence, extremism and sessionist activities. They unanimously felt that religious places should not be allowed to become a refuge or sanctuary for antisocial activities. Some of the opposition leaders, however, felt there had been laxity in dealing with the situation.

Mrs Gandhi apprised the opposition of her discussions with the Akali and other leaders. She said a kind of fundamentalism appears to have grown and certain groups became more aggressive. It also appears that they are receiving encouragement from outside.

In a brief reference to the security environment, Mrs Gandhi said that Pakistan had tagged on the Kashmir question to the offer of the no-war pact. One of the opposition leaders pointed out that there has been an increase in anti-Indian writings in the Pakistan press and personal attacks on the prime minister.

The opposition leaders who attended the meeting were: Indrajit Gupta, Communits Party of India [CPT]; Ram Vilas Paswan, Lok Dal; Madhu Dandavate, Janata; Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Bharatiya Janata Party [BJP]; Samar Mukherjee, Communist Party of India-Marxist [CPIOM]; C. Natarajan, Dravidda Munnetra Kazhagam [DMK]; Tridib Choudhuri, Revolutionary Socialist Party; Chitta Basu, Forward Bloc; Neelalohithadasan Nadar, DST; and K.P. Unnikrishnan, Congress-S; all from the Lok Sabha.

From the Raja Sabha; L.K. Advani, BJP; N.P. Shahi, Lok Dal; Harkrishan Singh Surjit, CPI-M; V. Gopalaswamy, DMK; Bhola Paswan Shastri, Congress-S; Piloo Modi, Janata; and Yogendra Sharma, CPI, attended the meeting.

SPOKESMAN REBUTS MOSCOW REPORT ON U.S. BASES

BK101101 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 10 Dec 81

[Text] The attention of the Pakistan Government has been drawn to certain commentaries broadcast by Radio Moscow which, while referring to a report prepared by an American defense specialist of the Rand Corporation, have sought to insinuate that the United States has shown interest in the use of naval and air bases in Pakistan and that these issues will be discussed during the coming visit of American Secretary of State Alexander Haig.

An official spokesman said in Islamabad today that the Pakistan Government wishes to state categorically that these allegations are totally unfounded and malicious. Their sole purpose is to malign Pakistan and create misunderstanding between Pakistan and its friends in the region.

The spokesman said the nonalignment of the Pakistan Government has been made clear to the United States, which has assured Pakistan of its understanding of our policy. The international community, he said, is also fully aware that Pakistan remains firmly committed to the principles of nonalignment.

'SOURCES' REBUT INDIAN ALLEGATIONS ON PROPAGANDA

BK101658 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 10 Dec 81

[Text] Well-informed sources in Islamabad have described the allegations broadcast by All-India radio in its Urdu program to the effect that government-influenced Pakistani communication media have started an anti-India propaganda campaign as incorrect and baseless. The sources said that these media -- radio and television -- are not involved in a propaganda campaign against India or any other country and that their programs reflect the policies of the Government of Paksitan.

As far as newspapers are concerned, the sources indicated that there is a misunderstanding in India and other foreign countries where it is believed that Pakistan's newspapers are under the current restrictions only news items which are deemed to be against Pakistan's ideology and internal security, or which may create communal tension, are censored. On other issues, newspapers have complete freedom to express their views.

The sources also described as incorrect various reports to the effect that Pakistan is acquiring arms on large scale. They said the military hardware Pakistan is purchasing from the United States will be used in place of its obsolete military equipment.

The sources also said that Pakistan very recently reiterated its offer of negotiations on a nonaggression pact between the two countries and that it is awaiting the Indian Government's response in this regard.

The sources said that on this issue and other issues connected with foreign policy the government enjoys the full support of the people and that no responsible newspaper has objected to this policy.

ARMS, AMMUNITION RECOVERED FROM UNIVERSITY

BK081732 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 8 Dec 81

[Text] ASSOCIATED PRESS OF PAKISTAN, quoting official sources in Karachi, says a large cache of arms and ammunition was recovered from the library and three staff quarters of Karachi University during a day-long raid conducted by the law-enforcing agencies today.

The arms recovered included 5 Sten guns, 7 revolvers, 247 live and 1 empty round of Sten guns, 20 cartridges, 1 magazine, 1 pistol, 1 12-bore single-barrel gun, 8 homemade cracker grenades, 1 pistol magazine and 1 dagger.

The sources said a few persons have been detained for interrogation and further investigation was in progress.

UN APPROVES PROPOSALS ON NUCLEAR-FREE ZONE

BK101220 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 10 Dec 81

[Text] The UN General Assembly has approved two Pakistani proposals concerning strengthening of security guarantees to nonnuclear-weapons states and the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in South Asia.

Under the first proposal -- which was approved by 145 votes in favor, to none against with 3 abstentions -- the assembly appealed to all states, especially the nuclear-weapons states, to demonstrate the political willingness so as to reach an agreement on a common approach and, in particular, on a common formula which could be included in an international instrument of a legally binding character.

Under the second proposal, the assembly urged the states of South Asia and other such neighboring states as may be interested to make all possible efforts to establish a nuclear-weapons-free zone in the region and to refrain in the meantime from any actions contrary to this objective. The proposal was adopted by 93 to 3 votes, with 44 abstentions. India, Bhutan and Mauritius voted against the resolution.

BRIEFS

OIL EXPLORATION -- The Oil and Natural Gas Development Corporation will launch a crash program to develop 10 oil-bearing structures. The program will cost 1 billion rupees and will be implemented with the cooperation of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Abu Dhabi and Canada. This was stated by Minister for Petroleum and Natural Resources Retired Major General Rao Farman Ali at a news conference in Rawalpindi on 6 December. [Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 7 Dec 81 BK]

DEFENSE MINISTER ON ARMS DEALS, U.S. MANEUVERS

PM101613 Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 5 Dec 81 p 12

[Interview with Defense Minister Colonel Salimi: "We Are in Fine Military Shape" -- date and place not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] Have armaments purchased under prerevolution contracts been delivered yet or not?

[Answer] Most of our contracts were with America and were paid for but unfortunately have not been delivered. In particular, after the hostages issue and the economic sanctions they would not deliver any of the purchases already paid for. This included foreign military purchases for which America had received billions of dollars. A statement of claims has been compiled and documentation provided through the painstaking efforts of our brothers in the Islamic Republic of Iran's Air Force and Defense Ministry. These claims were drawn up systematically and logically, and were taken to The Hague about 2 weeks ago and filed. This is in reality the $12 billion mentioned in the newspapers, the biggest claim every to be made against America in history.

Criteria for Contracts With Foreign Countries

[Question] What are your criteria for making military contracts with foreign countries?

[Answer] The criteria are that they should not impose anthing on us or cheat us, and that we should not cheat them. We are a country making purchases and they are selling. We state that we shall buy on certain terms and at certain prices, and we shall not accept impositions of any sort, just as we regard imposition by us on others as improper.

[Question] In your view, what is the aim of the American Bright Star military maneuvers in the region?

[Answer] America's aim is to show off; it always has to show its claws and teeth in order to continue its extortion and depredation. Our people have already responded to these maneuvers and displays, and they have no effect.

The Strength of the Combatant Army of Islam

[Question] What of Iran's military shape -- how do you see the future course of the war?

[Answer] Military shape, what you mean by military shape is what we would call in our own military jargon "fighting strength." This comprises certain physical forces and both visible and invisible facilities. This fighting strength, or military shape, as you put it, lies in the fighting units -- and you have seen what sort of shape they are in; I need not say more. When the time comes, these forces come together and show their true worth, inflicting ignominous defeats on the enemy.

RAFSANJANI CHARGES COVERUP OF BOSTAN DEFEAT

LD101216 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 10 Dec 81

[Excerpt] According to the Central News Unit, the Majlis held an open session today. During this session, which started with a recitation from the Koran, the chairman, Majlis Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani, said:

Yesterday Saddam Husayn marked International Human Rights Day by bombarding the heroic and resistant city of Ilam by air, martyring more than 20 persons, wounding more than 50 others and destroying a number of houses. He carried out these actions with French Mirage planes that had been delivered to Iraq since the war began. So why do those who claim to uphold human rights, who go to a great deal of trouble because of the execution of one terrorist, not show any reaction to the bombardment of a border city and its residents? They act as though nothing has happened.

The Majlis speaker added: Saddam was forced to resort to such madness to cover up the Iraqi Army's disgraceful defeat in Bostan, in which two Iraqi brigades were put out of action while a third one was completely destroyed. A few thousand Iraqi soldiers either fell -- and drowned -- in the (Hur al-'Azim) marshes, or were rearrested and returned to the fronts [as heard]. Others were either killed or captured. In order to cover up this disgraceful defeat, Saddam has started a propaganda campaign throughout the world. Every day he issues statements that are lies trying to convert the Iranian victory into an Iraqi one. He has even tried to prove that the Iraqis who died during the battle were actually killed by Iranians after being captured, thus deceiving the public in Iraq and throughout the world, particularly in the Arab world. However, the truth is clear. We took foreign reporters to the fronts. Everything is clear: By bombarding a border town by air, spreading deceitful propaganda and leveling unfounded accusations, one cannot revitalize a defeated and demoralized army.

Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani added: We repeat what we have said before: The fate of the rest of Saddam's soldiers who are inside Iran will be no different from that of their colleagues in Bostan. That fate is either death, escape, capture or surrender. If they surrender soon, they will be saved. Our decision in this regard is a wise and logical one and confirms to legal practices throughout the world. Iran has no option but to defend the rights of the deprived, to protect its borders and to fight against oppression and aggression.

MILITARY COMMANDERS VISIT SOUTHERN FRONT

LD101822 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 10 Dec 81

[Text] According to a report from the Central News Unit, following the complete positioning of the Islamic Republic of Iran's forces in the southern liberated areas, Col Seyyed-Shirazi, the commander of the Ground Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, joined other military commanders in inspecting the stabilized southern positions. They paid tribute to and praised the brave combatants of Islam.

The commander of the ground forces told a Central News Unit correspondent that with the victory of the Bostan operations the enemy can only surrender or evacuate the occupied zones. Otherwise, the enemy will suffer the same fate that he did in Bostan.

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUE 724

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUE 724

LD101814 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 10 Dec 81

[Communique 724 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. During the past 24 hours the aggressive enemy's positions, fortifications, armored vehicles and servicemen on the battlefronts came under heavy-weapon fire from the combatant units of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran. As a result, Saddam's army suffered losses and casualties.

The epicmaking combatants and fighting vanguard heroes of Islam continued to effectively defend their positions in the Bostan region by firing on the remnant elements of the defeated enemy in the region south of Sableh.

In the area west of Dezful, thanks to artillery fire from the Ground Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, 12 trenches and 1 heavy machinegun belonging to the enemy were destroyed; 13 Iraqi servicemen were killed.

By opening fire on the aggressors' positions in the Abadan and Khuninshahr regions, the combatants of the Islamic Republic of Iran's Navy set two enemy trenches, one observation post and one vehicle on fire. Six of Saddam's servicemen were either killed or wounded. Fire opened by the gendarmerie personnel on enemy positions in the Shur-e Shirin and Kan-e Sakht region resulted in the destruction of eight trenches, one observation post and one ammunition dump.

The Iraqi servicemen in the Dar Ballut region lost one tank, three vehicles and one ammunition dump. Exchange of fire continues in the Tang-e Hajian, Sar-e Pol-e Zahab, Bazi Deraz and (Sonboleh) areas with our forces enjoying firepower superiority. Our forces inflicted losses and casualties on the enemy in the Cham-e (Emam Hasan) region and captured some ammunition.

Our forces destroyed two Iraqi Army vehicles in the Tavilah region and on the Basra highway and destroyed a number of enemy trenches and vehicles in the (Tutmal) region. Three enemy personnel were killed and another three were captured.

This afternoon, 10 December 1981, several raiding enemy aircraft bombed Dezful in a barbarous air strike. Many houses were destroyed and a number of our compatriots were either martyred or wounded. This inhuman deed adds another mark of shame to the Saddamite visage of dark ignorance and paganism. Let Saddam know that the inequities suffered by the pure and blood-stained bodies belonging to our fallen compatriots constitute the seed of a storm which will squash his sordid and shameful existence in the not-too-distant future and will once and for all end his acts of bloody rapacity!

During the battle on 8 December 1981 10 of our combatants from the ground forces and 6 of our gendarmerie fighters achieved the honor of martyrdom and attained the bliss of divine mercy.

20 KILLED, 100 WOUNDED IN ATTACK ON DEZFUL

LD101736 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 10 Dec 81

[Text] The latest Central News Unit report from Ahvaz states that Saddam's criminal mercenaries attacked residential areas in the city of Dezful this afternoon, martyring more than 20 people and wounding more than 100 others.

The Ba'thist thugs, on the so-called Human Rights Day, dragged the people of Dezful in dust and blood while they were holding ceremonies commemorating their martyrs. The flowers which were to be placed on the shrines of their beloved ones became more colorful with their blood.

Meanwhile, PARS has reported that while the brave people of Dezful were transferring about 100 wounded people to the Dezful and Andimeshk hospitals, a vast group of this city's people gathered in the damaged areas. Moments later cries of "Death to America" and "Death to Saddam" echoed in these areas. The demonstrators said: Since the beginning of the imposed war Dezful has passed the test of resistance by offering numerous martyrs in the frequent missile attacks launched by the Ba'thist army. With today's enemy attacks it will certainly resist more.

According to this report, part of a mosque was ruined during today's savage attack and more than 100 houses were damaged.

PARS: IRAQ ORDERS EXECUTION OF CAPTURED GUARDS

LD111030 Tehran PARS in English 0905 GMT 11 Dec 81

[Text] Tehran, 10 Dec (PARS) -- A document with Iraqi POWs showed that the Ba'thist regime of Baghdad had ordered army commanders to execute on spot all revolutionary guards captured in the battlefronts. According to this document, now in possession of PARS, the Iraqi regime which ordered the immediate execution of revolutionary guards avoiding any transport of wounded revolutionary guards to Iraq hospitals while the Geneva convention forbids any kind of injury to POWs.

According to this circular, sent to all military units in the battlefronts, the Iraqi regime orderered all units to consider all revolutionary guards as murderers, hence giving full authority and exact and precise directives for their summary execution in the battlefields.

Meanwhile Tehran radio broadcast an interview tonight with Bostan front in which the POWs described how well they were treated. They categorically denied the Iraqi claims of mistreatment of Iraqi POWs, arguing that these claims were contrary to their observations.

Mohammad Tawas, an Iraqi POW from Karbala', Iraq, said that he witnessed how carefully Iraqi wounded soldiers were evacuated from the front lines.

In another development the Foreign Ministry spokesman, referring to the recent visit by the International Red Cross to POW camps in Iran, said that in actuality the current Iraqi propaganda campaign has an attempt to cover up their recent shameful defeat in Bostan, southwest of Iran.

AYATOLLAH DASTGHEYB ASSASSINATED IN SHIRAZ

LD111056 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 11 Dec 81

[Text] Following the victories of the heroic forces of Islam and the liberation of Bostan and at a time of an offensive against the Ba'thist aggressive forces in the west of the country, the American mercenary hypocrites, these true allies of Saddam, once again went to the assistance of Saddam from behind the fronts and soiled their criminal hands with the blood of another holy progeny of Mohammad.

Ayatallah Seyyed 'Abdolhoseyn Dastgheyb, the Friday imam and the representative of the imam in Shiraz, was martyred while going to Friday prayers by a bomb which was placed on his route. As a result of this tragedy, a number of his companions were also martyred and a number of them were injured.

REVOLUTION COMMITTEE GUARDS SEIZE ARMS

LD101922 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 10 Dec 81

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, the Public Relations Office of the Central Islamic Revolution Committee, in a statement described the deeds of the guards of the Islamic revolution committees during the past 3 weeks in the fight against the U.S.-inspired hypocritical and atheist minigroups, thanks to extensive cooperation from the 36-million-strong intelligence organization and our brothers from public prosecutor offices.

Some 248 hypocrite agents and agents from other counterrevolutionary minigroups who had participated in shootouts in the assassinations of Hezbollahi members were arrested. They were also involved in safe house activities. Of course, a number of these people, when it became clear after their interrogation that they had not been involved in the said crimes, were released after giving statements.

Four safe houses in Tehran Pars, the Azadi junction, Qanat-e Korsar and Narmak in Tehran were discovered. During the shootouts between our brother guards and the terrorists occupying these dens of corruption, five hypocrites were killed and a number of others were captured. From these safe houses quantities of arms and military equipment were seized, including 30 powerful bombs, 70 kg of dry gunpowder, 7 liters of nitroglycerine, 8 RPG-7's together with 7 rounds of ammunition and 8 telescopic sights, 246 G-3's and 50-mm heavy machineguns, 60 Uzis, 58 Colt pistols, 65 full G-3 and Uzi loaders and tens of offensive grenades and homemade pipebombs, 38 walkie talkies and radio base sets, two mother base [presumably monitoring] radio sets and 20 radio batteries. Also, thousands of rounds of ammunition of various types, quantities of documents and interorganization communications connected with the pro-U.S. hypocrites minigroup were seized from these safe dens.

GUARDS CONTINUE 'MOPPING-UP' OPERATIONS

LD101840 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 10 Dec 81

[Text] The Central News unit in Sanandaj, quoting the Public Relations Office of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, has announced that in a series of mopping-up operations on the Baneh-Sar Dasht axis yesterday, the brave combatants of the revolution cleansed the following villages of the filth of the pro-American mercenary agents: Kozli, (Tondah), Mirabad (Sofla), Mirabad ('Olya), Zarvan Sofla, Zarvan 'Olya and (Shakeh). In these successful operations, the outlawed armed agents retreated from the villages and suffered a large number of dead and wounded. Accurate statistics on the enemy's losses are not yet available.

One of the combatants from the Mobilization and one of the self-sacrificing workers of the Baneh traffic office, who was busy building a road for the combatants of the revolution, achieved the lofty honor of martyrdom.

COUNCIL OF GUARDIANS ELECTS NEW PRESIDIUM

LD102054 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 10 Dec 81

[Text] The Central News Unit reports that this morning the Council of Guardians held a session. In this session the issue of the election of a new Presidium for the Council of Guardians was raised and, after a ballot, Mr Safi was elected as secretary and Mr Mohsen Hadavi as vice president of the Council of Guardians.

According to this report, in this session, which was also attended by Mr Musavi-Tabrizi, revolution prosecutor general, talks and debates were held on some issues concerning Islamic punishment and the duties of revolution courts.

Brigadier General Zahirnezhad, chief of staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, together with his advisers also attended this session and asked the views of the Council of Guardians on armed forces issues in connection with the Constitution. The necessary studies were carried out, and the statement of the Council of Guardian's views was postponed until its next session.

BRIEFS

PLACE NAME CHANGES -- The Iranian Interior Ministry announced today that the name of Kermanshahan Province has been changed to Bakhtaran and Kermanshah city to Imanshahr City. This has been done at the request of martyrs' families. [Tehran International Service in Arabic 1430 GMT 10 Dec 81 GF]

NEPAL

RISING NEPAL EDITORIAL FINDS RAO VISIT 'USEFUL'

BK101234 Katmandu THE RISING NEPAL in English 2 Dec 81 p 2

[Editorial: "Useful Visit"]

[Text] The recently concluded 4-day official visit to Nepal of the external affairs minister of India, Mr P.V. Narasimha Rao, though billed as a goodwill visit has, besides generating goodwill between the two countries, also served a useful basic purpose. Shared as this assessment has been by the distinguished foreign guest himself, it has been backed by a number of achievements and highlights that need to be taken into account, including Mr Rao's audience with his majesty the king. Thus, apart from the fact that this visit provided a timely opportunity for an exchange of views between the two countries at the political level, including two rounds of talks between Mr Rao and Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Mr Surya Bahadur Thapa on matters of bilateral, regional and international significance, it has, from all accounts, resulted in a much better appreciation of each other's points of view. Considering that, of late, events on the regional plane had rendered such an understanding of each other's aspirations and views that much more necessary, this is clearly an achievement of not inconsiderable value. Clearly, too, the fact that this has been achieved only days before the state visit of the Indian president to Nepal is a positive development that bodes well for the forthcoming visit of the Indian head of state.

Though some differences on the two side's perceptions of the critical security environment, in the region and more generally too, may admittedly not have dissolved, it is a happy commentary on the state of Nepal-India relations that this has not affected the most basic bilateral consideration: that of constantly striving to deepen and strengthen a relationship that has, by and large, admirably withstood the test of time. And nowhere perhaps is this made more manifest than in the two countries' resolve to expand the scope for bilateral cooperation, including that in the important area of harnessing the water resources of this country, without compromising Nepal's wider proposal for regional cooperation in this regard. A concrete indicator of the same is to be found in the decision undertaken during the visit to have the secretaries of the concerned ministries in the two countries undertake a technical review 'as soon as possible'.

Pragmatically the Rao visit was seized as a valuable opportunity to undertake a comprehensive review of various important on-going joint projects, and problems and bottlenecks affecting them. While there is now ample grounds to believe that such matters will be expedited, a similar feeling has also been generally experienced about easing some of the problems on the trade and transit front, including that resulting from the delays in the dispatch of Nepalese imports at Calcutta port. In conclusion, it may be said that although Indian endorsement of Nepal's zone of peace proposal was not forthcoming, it may not be far off the mark to suggest that, as a result of the frank exchanges of views on this matter, there will now be a better appreciation in India of both the motivations as well as the implications of this innocuous peace proposal. This is specially true of the point that it need not detract from any peace proposal for the region as a whole which, as such, may take a much longer period of gestation than a one-nation zone of peace plan.

REDDY CAUTIONS AGAINST APPREHENSIONS ABOUT INDIA

BK100913 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 10 Dec 81

[Text] President Sanjiva Reddy has said the people of Nepal should not have any apprehensions about India. Speaking at the Nepal-Bharat Maitri Sangh [Nepal-India Friendship Association] in Katmandu last evening, he said any false apprehensions based on press reports do not help in strengthening the age-old ties of friendship between the two nations.

Referring to the proposal to declare Nepal a zone of peace, he said peace has been prevailing between the two countries for thousands of years. India does not want this to be destroyed. Keeping this in view, India has been helping Nepal in its development programs for the past 35 years. The proposals need further clarification and the leaders in Nepal should come to India and discuss the question with Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi, he added.

The president said relations between India and Nepal are based on mutual respect, understanding and recognition of each other's sovereignty and independence. The friendship between them will last as long as Pashupatinath and Rameshwaram [Hindu gods] exist, he added.

Earlier, Indian Ambassador Jain announced an additional aid of over 90 million rupees to develop medical facilities in different centers in Nepal.

The president gave a banquet last night in honor of King Birendra and Queen Aishwarya. He will leave for New Delhi this afternoon at the end of his 4-day state visit to Nepal.

SRI LANKA

TULF DENIES PREPARATION FOR SEPARATIST STATE

BK101227 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 10 Dec 81

[Text] The Tamil United Liberation Front [TULF], leadership in its continuing dialogues with government, last night assured President Jayawardene that it has nothing to do with certain elements reportedly preparing to declare the state of eelam unilaterally. The TULF leader, A. Amirthalingam, said certain groups indicating such actions had been specifically told that the TULF had nothing to do with them.

A wide range of subjects were discussed at yesterday's dialogue, the fifth in series between the government and the TULF.

The question of compensation for damages caused to property in Jaffna, [word indistinct] for the stationing of Tamil speaking police officers in the peninsula and port facilities to people living in distant places were among matters discussed. A further meeting between the two sides is to be held on the 21st [December] to discuss in detail how the district council's work could be made more meaningful. Certain proposals in this connection have already been made by the prime minister.

BRIEFS

LIBYAN LIVESTOCK PROJECT -- Libya is to launch a multimillion rupee company in Sri Lanka for livestock development and food production. An agreement has already been reached between the two governments for the establishment of a joint agriculture and livestock development company limited. The minister of rural industrial development spearheaded this project. He will hold 51 percent of the shares. The Libyan Arab Foreign Investment Company will own 49 percent of the paid up equity capital. The joint company has already undertaken a poultry project for the development of both local consumption and exports. The authorized capital of the joint company runs to 100 million rupees. [Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 6 Dec 81 BK]